

CLUB NOTES

Official Organ of State Federation of Clubs

Judging Clubs from a standard of practical benefit, there is no city or rural organization that means more to its particular district than the Neighborhood Club. Organized in 1911 for the purpose of promoting the social center movement it has made the Neighborhood House the rendezvous for not only the social pleasures of the Club woman, but for the men and the children of the community. Even now there is a plan well under way to build an addition to the house and the club will hold an apron sale on April 27, the proceeds of which will go to swell the building fund. The sewing committee will take orders for all styles of aprons and caps that will be sold at this time and anyone desiring a serviceable work apron or one of the dainty variety will be sure to find just exactly what she wants at the Neighborhood Club Bazaar.

While much of the time of the members has been given over in preparing for this affair, the regular fortnightly current events program has continued to occupy their attention for serious study along this line is prominently featured by the club. It belongs to the district federation before which his president, Mrs. Jennie Wheeler gave a splendid talk on the club library. She has written a special article on the subject for The Republican that will be of more than ordinary interest for the club has successfully tried out the idea it advances.

VALUE OF READING AND GAMES FOR COUNTRY CHILDREN

(By Mrs. Jennie Wheeler)

It has long been recognized that children in the city schools have need of exercise and recreation outside of school hours. Much time, thought and money has been expended in the effort to meet this need. Libraries, reading rooms, gymnasiums, parks, public playgrounds, and less out of the least, the picture shows, have been provided for the pleasure and profit of these same children. They are made to feel, in every way possible, that the city is a most desirable place in which to live.

In marked contrast to this has been the condition which until recently, obtained in the rural district. It has been the common idea that when the child in the country attended school a few months in the year, and performed the tasks required of him at home, he would have little time remaining in which to need entertainment. While this is undoubtedly true yet we lost sight of the fact that if the child was to grow into a well rounded character, it was necessary that he should have opportunity to develop along all lines. We know that physical perfection requires that all muscles shall be exercised. This is not likely to be accomplished in the doing of the ordinary routine of "chores" which fall to the lot of the country child. Occasionally in the past a young enthusiastic teacher, fresh from a normal school which emphasized these things, would endeavor to institute some reforms, through her school. Her efforts were often looked upon as absurd in the extreme, an off repeated comment being, "I can find enough for Johnny to do to give him plenty of exercise." When the boys tried to practice the simple drills at home they were told that their muscles would receive as much benefit from chopping a pile of wood for the kitchen fire. Then, the child is instinctively a social creature. He not only desires but needs the companionship of other children. Many lessons which will be useful in later life can be learned in no other way. But far too often, has this been overlooked in the training of the boys and girls in rural communities.

Now, in the last few years, we have been waking up. We are beginning to realize that lack of pleasant environment has been largely responsible for sending our boys and girls to the city, when we need them so much at home. Since we have adopted the slogan "Back to the soil," we are finding that the country must be made a more attractive as well as being a more healthful place of habitation than the city.

Over on the South Side we have been giving this subject much careful thought. Instead of saying to our boys and girls, "You must not do this or you must not do that," denying them available pleasures without substituting anything better, we have tried to provide entertainment for them.

In June, through the efforts of the Neighborhood Club, our Neighborhood House was opened as a reading room. We had only hoped to be able to install a few books and magazines, as a beginning. But owing to the generosity of our good friend, Mr. Bartlett, we received about a thousand volumes. These books comprise twenty-four sections of the circulating library which Mr. Bartlett has had in operation through the state for some time. They embrace a wide range of subjects and make an excellent foundation for our library.

A Mrs. Fox who was formerly a resident of our community also presented us with a fine collection of books on modern farming particularly on irrigated lands.

Many magazines have been contributed, also games such as carom, crokinole, checkers, dominoes, ten pins, etc. We have a book of games and entertainments which is very popular.

The library is governed by a board which is appointed, one member from the Neighborhood Club, one from the Sunday school and a third from the board of Neighborhood House. This board raised funds by public subscription to pay a librarian during the summer. The building was open for two hours on three afternoons and three evenings of each week and as a special convenience the librarian was at her desk for a half hour after Sunday school and club meetings. The library is conducted on much the same plan as city libraries with cards and bookshelves. Books are issued for two weeks with a fine of one cent a day for overtime.

One evening of each week has been set apart for a social time, with extra special once a month. On these evenings various entertainments are provided. Sometimes they are in charge of the Library Board, sometimes of the girls and occasionally the boys show us how such things should be done. These parties are always championed by some member of the club.

Our building is equipped with a piano and the girls have brought here their music which some of them, lacking an instrument at home, have no other opportunity of using. They thoroughly enjoy singing together the better class of popular songs.

We have found that while many take the books home, very few have cared to make use of the reading room for reading. But as a social center it has been an unqualified success. It is a source of gratification to those in charge of the work to hear the expressions of approval from the young people. We feel that the results more than justify the time and effort expended.

At a recent tea given by Maricopa Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Miss Edna Styles of the Arizona School of Music, read Henry Van Dyke's "America For Me." In response to many requests The Republican reproduces the poem this morning:

AMERICA FOR ME
 'Tis fine to see the old world and travel up and down
 Among the ancient palaces and cities of renown.
 To admire the crumbling castles and statues of the kings.
 But now I think I have had enough of antiquated things.
 So it's home again, home again, America for me.
 My heart is turning home again and there I long to be.
 In the land of youth and freedom, beyond the ocean bars,
 Where the air is full of sunlight, and the flag is full of stars.

Oh, London is a man town, there's power in the air,
 And Paris is a woman's town with flowers in her hair.

It's sweet to dream in Venice, and it's great to study Rome
 But when it comes to living there's no place like home.

I like the German fir-woods, in green battalions drilled.
 I like the gardens of Versailles with fountains filled.
 But Oh, to take your hand my dear, and ramble for a day
 In the friendly western woodland, where nature has her way.

So it's home again, home again, America for me.
 I want the ship that's homeward bound to plow the rolling sea.
 To the blessed land of room enough, Beyond the ocean bars,
 Where the air is full of sunlight and the flag is full of stars.

I know that Europe's wonderful, but something seems to lack.
 The past is too much with her, and the people looking back.
 But the glory of the present, is to make the future free.
 We love our land for what she is, and what she is to be!

The Glendale Woman's club will present the following program Wednesday afternoon under the auspices of the civics-education department, Mrs. Ira A. Moore, chairman.
 Opening Chorus Columbia, Gem of the Ocean.
 General Subject Great Movement of Our Times.

Hostess, Mrs. J. R. Sheets.
 Children's Entertainer Mrs. Wilfred Twine.

The high school Parent-Teachers Association will hold its annual election of officers Thursday afternoon, April 15, when the nominating committee, Mrs. C. B. Wood chairman, Mrs. J. C. Norton and Mrs. Gertrude Jay will make its report. At this time the program for the coming year will be outlined. At the meeting of the circle Thursday, graduation plans were discussed in general and the question of dress in particular. Miss Ida McDaniels of the high school faculty opened the discussion and the senior girls view point was given by Miss Gladys Kelly and Miss Gladys Woodell. Both the senior students were in favor of simplicity in dress, declaring it to be the sensible and correct thing for the high school graduate. Miss Camilla Franklin, teacher of domestic science in taking up the practical side of the question announced her willingness to help the girls decide upon their costumes, even offering to assist them in making the frocks should they care to do so. In speaking for the mothers, Mrs. Crabb endorsed the simplicity plan advising those who wished elaborate frocks to give up the idea in favor of the majority who preferred the less expensive style of dress. Miss Sara Whitfield, of the faculty spoke for the two boys section reporting that one section voted that every graduate use his own judgment in the matter and the other that the boys appear in white trousers and dark blue coat. Business suits for the boys and simple white frocks for the girls are the community's ideas according to Mrs. John Hurley who scored the pretentious entertainment and ultra-fashionable dress. Since the parent-teacher association has interested itself in graduation fetes and fashions there has been a decided tendency toward reform, which has been noted in commencement and all other festivities that season entails.

Mrs. Eugene Redewill was chairman of the last meeting of the Friday club and leader in the general discussion that followed each number. Following was the program.
 Dandy, Prime Minister under Charles II. 1673-1678.
 Shaftsbury Mrs. W. K. James.
 Policy of Shaftsbury Mrs. Walter Bennett.
 Dandy Mrs. Ernest Lewis.
 Nineteen Mrs. Sims Ely.
 Potish Plot Mrs. Harold Baxter.
 The Fall of Daudy Mrs. John Bennett, Jr.
 The Marriage of Prince of Orange and Mary, and its Effect on Relations of England and France, Mrs. Joseph Sherburne Jenckes.

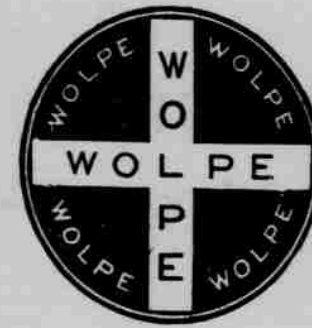
A phase of the motion picture industry not yet discussed before the Woman's club will be the subject of a paper given at its meeting Tuesday by Mrs. Walter Bennett, "Women versus War, The Women's Peace Party, plaintiff" will be Miss Alice Redewill's contribution to the program, the other features being a reading, "The Battle Cry of the Mothers" (Angela Morgan) by Mrs. J. Elliott, and the musical numbers by Mrs. Arthur Gibbons Hulett, who will sing "As In a Rose Jar" (Cadman), "I Hear a Thrush at Eve" (Cadman) and "The Sweet O' the Year" (Salter).

"Our System of Education," will feature the program of the civics-education department of the Woman's club that will be given at two fifteen o'clock tomorrow afternoon. All members of the club who are interested in the subject are invited to be present. There will be reports by the committees on playground and moving picture censorship. Mrs. J. L. B. Alexander is department chairman.

Initial steps have been taken to establish a center in Phoenix of the Drama League of America. Because the College club belongs to the national drama league the question of a local center was first presented before that organization, receiving its endorsement at its meeting Wednesday afternoon. It is understood that the matter will come before the woman's club shortly and if acted upon favorably the movement will be forwarded by those who are especially interested in carrying out the scheme.

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While the center is entirely independent of clubs it was thought to initiate its establishment through the different associations, particularly those that have a drama study section and would work in conjunction with the league in recommending and securing the best plays. Mrs. Francis H. Redewill, each member of the Chicago branch is actively interested in making Phoenix a center.

Judge A. S. Hawkins is scheduled to make an address on "The Advantages of Making a Will and the Probation of Same." At a meeting of the Civic League at the Chamber of Commerce Wednesday afternoon, Mrs. M. A. Burns, an attaché of the second state legislature, will be one of the speakers, her subject being "The Community Citizen."

The candidacy of Mrs. E. H. Abbott for high school trustee is being forwarded by club women who urged her to allow her name to be placed on the ballot. Mrs. Abbott belongs to a family of educational workers and is herself greatly interested in the public schools. It naturally followed that when a woman candidate was considered for endorsement that one of their own members whose qualifications will make her a desirable official. Mrs. Abbott has two children attending the local schools and is well informed on local school conditions and before coming to Phoenix kept in touch with educational matters in Hartford, where she was prominently identified with school work. She is at present chairman of the program committee of the high school parent-teacher association, corresponding secretary of the Arizona Congress of Mothers and an active member of the Musicians and Woman's clubs.

The re-election of Mrs. C. F. Ainsworth as chairman of the art and literature department of the Woman's club was not at all surprising to those who have not been in close touch with club affairs. Mrs. Ainsworth has done more to promote art than any one person in Phoenix and in such a broad sense that her activities have extended quite beyond the confines of the club itself. It was she who initiated the movement for an art exhibition last January that proved a great success and upon her suggestion a working class in art was later established. This class will be continued next season and it is possible that a new class in current American art may be inaugurated in the autumn. Her activity has not been devoted solely to art for the literature section has received an equal proportion of her attention. A short story contest was waged during the early season and later a drama section formed, this class last week furnished the program for gentlemen's evening. To relieve Mrs. Ainsworth from part of the responsibility, Mrs. H. B. Wilkinson, the retiring president of the club, has consented to act as chairman of the drama section of the department for the coming year.

City and rural clubs are actively interested in the Clean Up Day scheduled for Saturday, March 27. All the local organizations are co-operating with the city officials who are advancing the movement. Clubs are recognized leaders in making "Clean Up" a permanent institution and funds were raised last week at one of the rural clubs, the Washington Woman's Club, for a prize to the ranch that makes the best clean up record for the year. That the Clean-Up plan is being advocated throughout the country is evidenced by the wide-spread publicity that has been given to the matter. The

American Club Woman Magazine now offers suggestions for town and city clean up in bulletin form to the heads of the state federations. One of its circulars follows:

They do it by community effort. Scores and hundreds of towns join in this work for civic welfare. March, April and May are the months to clean-up and get rid of the filth which breeds flies and disease if left lying about.

Clean up Week is becoming a permanent institution. Under the stimulus of team work and civic pride, the most indifferent and shiftless housekeeper will join in the competition to see who will have the cleanest premises and the most attractive-looking home and the prettiest town.

Beauty, along with cleanliness, is the new doctrine. First, clean up, then paint and paper and kalsomine. None of these things are expensive when the community spirit is abroad.

It is a children's movement too. The boys and girls will enthusiastically help to carry away the refuse from their neighbor's homes as well as their own. If they have a vision of summer flower gardens.

Makes your home a more attractive living place. Clean-up and renovate, inside and out.

Join with your neighbors and do your share of the spring clean-up, this year. It will net you big dividends in health and happiness.

Should your town officials prove a bit reluctant, raise a fund through your club. Write us and we will tell you how.

The Orangewood Improvement Club will meet Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. Lee Bayles. Current events will be the general subject of the program.

Mrs. Henry D. Ross, president of the Arizona Federation of Women's Clubs, left Friday for Florence where she made an address before the Parent Teacher Association and the Village Improvement Club, the subject of her lecture at the club being "Federation Ideals." Mrs. Ross, who was the guest of Mrs. W. G. Randall, chairman of the public health department of the state federation, will return to town today.

Mrs. Parker Woodman, president of the Osborn Parent Teacher Association announces a special meeting of the circle Wednesday afternoon at the district school. As business of importance

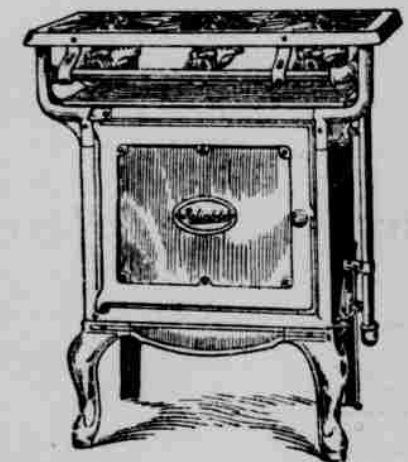
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